

West Virginia Writers' Project

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County Government. Samuel G. Smith. Hillsboro, W. Va. Pocahontas County. # 1.

Just after the formation of the county in 1821 the taxes were raised by assessing each male person over 21 years of age amounts varying from 25 cts, to well over a dollar according to population as they estimated how much it would take to run the county government then assessed each inhabitant of the county his proportionate part, this system was used for a number of years but as the county grew and more revenue was needed to run it a levy was layed so much on the one hundred dollars valuation of each property owner, this was sufficient until the county government expanded as it took more men to run it as the population grew as the population was greater, more people to protect, more records to keep, more roads to build and maintain, the levy was around \$ 2,500.00 for many years but gradually raised from year to year until at the present time the taxpayers of Pocahontas County pay in the neighborhood of \$ 71,823. not counting public service tax & the total expenditures of the county for 1940 were \$ 283,466.00 not counting public Assistance

In 1920 the General County Purpose estimate was \$ 44,092,44 to be spent on the main highways or class A roads of the county. The total value of Pocahontas County in personal property in 1920 was \$ 14,697,480 as shown by the assessment of that time, the amount to be raised by levy 26,743. besides the amounts to be raised for each district to be used on class B roads and otherwise, District road funds to be raised by Greenbank District was \$ 8,41253 and the value of the district was \$ 4,206,265, for Ldray District for road pur-

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ses \$ 10,15864 value of the district \$ 3,386016 for Huntersville Di-  
strict road purposes \$ 5,11631 and a total value of the district 1,705438,  
for Little Levels for district road purposes \$ 7,657.70 and the value of  
the district in personal property \$ 2,552568. For 1921 the general county  
levy was 30 cents on each \$ 100.00 valuation of last assessment, the county  
road fund levy order was 15 cts on the one hundred dollars valuation, this  
was for general county road purposes while the following was the figures  
for district road purposes 15 cts on each one hundred dollars, besides the  
20 cts additional for Greenbank District to meet her bonded indebtedness as  
they voted in 1920 - \$ 260,000.00 road bond that had to be retired each year  
this is the only bonded indebtedness of any of the districts of the county.

In 1928 the general county purpose estimate - receipts 4.773 and the  
estimated disbursements by the county court that lays the county levy is  
\$ 51,722.83 and the amount to be raised by levy \$ 46,949.76 this amount was  
raised by a 30 cts on each 100.00 valuation of all taxable property within  
the county, the estimated receipts available for county road fund purposes  
\$ 12,149.19 and the estimated disbursements of \$ 51,273.99 and the amount  
that the county court estimated that would have to be raised by levy was  
\$ 39,124.80 this amount to be raised by a 25 ct rate on each 100.00 valuation  
and it was found that the total value of the county according to the last

assessment was \$ 15,649,920. ~~xixixi~~ the estimated receipts 1,441.41 and estimated disbursements ~~80~~ 8,013.00 leaving the amount of \$ 6,572.00 to be raised by levy at the rate of 15 cts on the 100.00 valuation these figures were for district road purposes which was divided as follows real estate \$ 1,889,570, personal property \$ 1,019,810, public utility property \$ 1,471,958 or total value of Greenbank District \$ 4,381,338.

For Edray District the estimated receipts were \$ 850.00 and the estimated disbursements were \$ 6615.00 leaving \$ 5,764.00 to be raised by levy at 15 cents on the 100.00 valuation, the value of the Edray District was as follows real estate \$ 2,740,180.00 personal property \$ 700,250.00, utility \$ 402,520.00 or a total value for Edray District of \$ 3,842,950.00 Huntersville District estimated receipts 84.00 estimated disbursements # 3099.00 leaving \$ 3015.00 to be raised by levy at 15 cent rate on real estate valued at 1,072,780 personal property 466,050 and public utility 471,343.00 or a total of 2,010,173 for the value of the district. Little Levels District estimated receipts 1252.00 and the estimated disbursements ~~5,104.00~~ 5,104.00 leaving \$ 3,852.00 to be raised by levy at the 15 ct, rate, the total value of the real estate in Little Levels in 1928 was 1598,690 personal property 468,880 and public utilities 500,743 or a total value for the district of \$ 2,568.313

The road bond and sinking fund estimate to meet the interest on the